**Vietnam Era Profiles for Students**

1. **reporter in Vietnam--**You are a foreign war correspondent assigned to Cambodia at the start of the Vietnam War. As a correspondent, you and your camera man are asked to cover the conflict in Vietnam with first hand footage of soldiers.
2. **POW--**You entered the war voluntarily in the first years of the conflict. You are now a prisoner of war held at a camp in North Vietnam known as the Zoo.
3. **soldier at basic training--**You are a soldier at basic training in Fort Gordon, Georgia. You volunteered to join the army, but realize that many of the soldiers around you did not.
4. **Soldier—**You are a soldier currently serving in South Vietnam near the demilitarized zone.
5. **Army medic/nurse stationed in Saigon**—You were a nursing student in Oregon when a recruiter came from the army. You are currently stationed at Cam Ranh Bay.
6. **Vietnamese civilian**—You are a Vietnamese civilian living in South Vietnam. You have family members in both North and South Vietnam.
7. **soldier returning home**—You are a soldier who was wounded in Vietnam. You were honorably discharged and received a medal for your actions in the battlefield. You return to the United States and your home in Washington D.C. amidst protests against the war.
8. **college student--**You are a college student in Kent State in Ohio. You do not agree with the war, but have friends who have been drafted.
9. **national politician—**You are a Congressman from New York state during the Vietnam war. You are under stress dealing with many constituents who are worried about their sons being sent to fight in Vietnam. You are also under pressure from businessmen and other politicians.
10. **high school student about to graduate--**You are a high school senior in Pennsylvania. You planned on entering the work force right out of high school, joining your family’s vending machine business, but as graduation approaches, you realize that you will enter the draft as soon as graduation is over.
11. **Draftee—**You live in Berkley, California. You have just been drafted. Your younger sister cries, scared for your safety.
12. **wife of soldier--**You are a recent high school graduate. Your boyfriend of three years was drafted into the military. Before shipping out, you married. He is a soldier now serving in Vietnam. You are surrounded by protests and media coverage surrounding the war.
13. **Musician**—You are a musician (folk singer/songwriter) on your way to NYC where you plan to join a commune.
14. **Mother of a soldier**—You grew up in the era of World War II, and are a proud patriot. Your only son is against the war. He has just been drafted into the military.
15. **WW2 veteran--**You are a proud veteran of World War II, having served in the Pacific theater. You have two children in high school. One has strong anti-war views.
16. **Weapons manufacturer**--You own a business that manufactures weapons that you sell to the United States government. You had been about to go bankrupt before the war in Vietnam started.

**Questions for students to think about:**

1. How does my character feel about the war?
2. Who are the people in their daily life?
3. Who and what contributes to their view of the war? (parents, media, musicians, politicians, family members, school environment, economic background, politics) Why?
4. What type of environment does your character live in?
5. How does the war affect their daily life?
6. What are your character’s goals in regards to the war?